



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website

www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting

"Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The vaccination requirement issued pursuant to E.O. 14043, is currently the subject of a

nationwide injunction. While that injunction remains in place, Department of Agriculture will not process requests for a medical exception from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to E.O. 14043. Department of Agriculture will also not request the submission of any medical information related to a request for an exception from the vaccination requirement pursuant to E.O. 14043 while the injunction remains in place. But Department of Agriculture may nevertheless receive information regarding a medical exception. That is because, if Department of Agriculture were to receive a request for an exception from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to E.O. 14043 during the pendency of the injunction, Department of Agriculture will accept the request, hold it in abeyance, and notify the employee who submitted the request that implementation and enforcement of the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to E.O. 14043 is currently enjoined and that an exception therefore is not necessary so long as the injunction is in place. In other words, during the pendency of the injunction, any information collection related to requests for medical exception from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement pursuant to E.O. 14043 is not undertaken to implement or enforce the COVID-19 vaccination requirement.

Department of Agriculture

TITLE: Request for a Medical Exemption to the COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0503-0027

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: Section 2 of E.O. 14043 mandates that each agency “implement, to the extent consistent with applicable law, a program to require COVID-19 vaccination for all of its Federal employees, with exceptions only as required by law.” This medical exemption form is necessary for USDA to determine legal exemptions to the vaccine requirement under the Rehabilitation Act. This includes the requisite confidentiality requirements, subject to the applicable Rehabilitation Act standards, and maintenance of supporting documents.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: This information is being requested to promote the safety of the Federal workforce, the safety of Federal buildings, and others on site at agency facilities or those interacting with the public consistent with the COVID-19 Workplace Safety: Agency Model Safety Principles established by the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To request a medical exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination requirement, an employee must provide documentation from their medical provider.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Federal Employees and Medical Providers

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 2,000

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: Annually

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 333

Ruth Brown,
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

*Billing Code 3410-01

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